

ographical map in colours of the Clyde basin, which alone is worth the price of the whole book. Editors and authors alike are to be congratulated on the production of so valuable a work.

*Catalogue of the Marine Invertebrata of Eastern Canada.*

By J. F. WHITEAVES, LL.D. Ottawa, 1901. 8vo.

IN view of the recent establishment of a Marine Biological Station in the Maritime Provinces of Canada, the Geological Survey of the Dominion have decided to publish a list of the marine invertebrate fauna of the east coast. The resulting volume by Dr. Whiteaves is in many respects successful, being conceived on sound lines and not overburdened with useless synonymy, while much valuable information as to the habits, habitats, &c. of the several species is given in a very concise form. But there is one serious blemish which will greatly impair the usefulness of the work. This consists in the entire absence of anything in the nature of diagnoses or keys of the species or genera. The lack of these means of identification will, we fear, go far to deprive Dr. Whiteaves's list of value to any but specialists, by whom, at the same time, it will no doubt be welcomed. We may hope, however, that the work of the Marine Biological Station will, at some future time, necessitate the issue of a revised edition, in which the omission in question may be rectified.

*Catalogue of the Collection of Birds' Eggs in the British Museum (Natural History).* Vol. I. *Ratite, Carinate (Tinamiformes—Lariformes).* By EUGENE W. OATES. London: Published by Order of the Trustees, 1901.

IN publishing this 'Catalogue' the Trustees have conferred a great benefit upon ornithologists in general and oologists in particular.

That its preparation has been entrusted to Mr. Oates will be a sufficient guarantee that the work is absolutely reliable and carried out with scrupulous exactness.

Mr. Oates, in a short Introduction, reviews the history "of the entire Collection from its earliest commencement," and concludes with a tabular statement showing that, in all, the eggs of 520 species have been described, which has entailed the examination and registration of 12,156 eggs. The Game-birds, Rails, and Gulls appear to be exceptionally well represented, these three groups alone yielding over 8000 out of the total. The whole Catalogue is to be completed in four volumes, and will then form a quite unique work.

The egg of each species is tersely described and its extreme measurements are given. In addition is a complete collection of references to the literature wherever the egg has been previously described or figured, which should prove of immense value.

Eighteen beautifully coloured Plates are given at the end of the volume. These contain representations of eggs, for the most part, not previously figured.